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OF IMMEDIATE

0 170810Z JAN 74 ZYH ZFF 184
FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK83

NSA, NGA and DOS
reviews completed

TO AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY CONTAINS

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TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SEC. KISSINGER

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
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TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORD

JANUARY 17, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: NOON REPORT

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***** WHSR COMMENT *****

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***** T O P S E C R E T *****S C O P Y

THE SLBM, BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST CHINESE STRATEGIC MISSILE TO USE SOLID PROPELLANTS, APPARENTLY HAS NEVER BEEN FLIGHT TESTED. IF ACTUAL FLIGHT TESTING OF THE SYSTEM IS BEGUN SOON, FIRST DEPLOYMENT COULD COME BEFORE THE END OF THIS DECADE. THE CHINESE PROBABLY INTEND TO BUILD MULTI-TUBE NUCLEAR SUBMARINES SIMILAR TO U.S. POLARIS BOATS.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE
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SUBJ: SYRIAN POSITION ON DISENGAGEMENT

1. AMID REPORTS OF IMMINENT VISIT BY YOU TO DAMASCUS, SYRIAN FOMIN KHADDAM, IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED ON JAN 16 BY INDEPENDENT WEEKLY AS SAYYAD, MADE FOLLOWING REMARKS RE SARG POSITION ON DISENGAGEMENT AND ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL:
(A) EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS FORM SINGLE FRONT UNDER SINGLE MILITARY COMMAND.
(B) SEPARATION OF FORCES MEANS FIRST STAGE IN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

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***** T O P S E C R E T *****S C O P Y

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FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IN THIS CONTEXT, SYRIA WILL AGREE TO DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES. IF THERE NO LINK BETWEEN DISENGAGEMENT AND TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, THIS WOULD MEAN ENTIRE PROBLEM IS BEING PUT ON ICE PENDING INDEFINITE OUTCOME OF GENEVA CONF.

(C) DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES MUST TAKE PLACE SIMULTANEOUSLY ON BOTH SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN FRONTS. DISENGAGEMENT ON ONLY ONE FRONT WOULD ALLOW ENEMY TO CONCENTRATE HIS FORCES ON THE OTHER. (D) SARG ATTACHES GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO MAINTAINING UNITY OF ACTION BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT WITHIN GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF ARAB STRATEGY WHICH SEEKS LIBERATION OF ALL TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967, INCLUDING JERUSALEM, AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. "EGYPT AND SYRIA HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THIS POLICY.. (AND) WE CANNOT IMAGINE THAT ANY OF US WOULD DO ANYTHING TO VIOLATE IT".

2. COMMENT: KHADDAM'S REMARKS ARE CLEAREST PUBLIC EXPRESSION WE HAVE SEEN TO DATE OF SARG CONCERN THAT EGYPT MAY AGREE TO UNILATERAL ARRANGEMENT ON DISENGAGEMENT WITH ISRAEL.

NORTH VIETNAM WANTS TO SET UP DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, ACCORDING TO A FOREIGN MINISTRY WHITE PAPER PUBLISHED TODAY TO MARK THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS PEACE ACCORDS.

THE 15,000-WORD TEXT STRESSED IN ITS CONCLUSION THAT IF WASHINGTON DISENGAGED COMPLETELY FROM SOUTH VIETNAM, FULFILLED ITS OBLIGATIONS TO RECONSTRUCT NORTH VIETNAM AND RESPECTED THE "FUNDAMENTAL NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE LAOTIAN AND CAMBODIAN PEOPLES", HANOI WOULD CONSIDER "NORMALISATION" OF RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

OBSERVERS NOTED THAT THE TERM USED TO DATE HAD BEEN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "NEW RELATIONS" BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND HANOI AND THAT THE EXPRESSION OF "NORMALISATION" REPRESENTED A MAJOR DEPARTURE.

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OBSERVERS ALSO NOTED THAT NORTH VIETNAM WAS MAKING ITS "NORMALISATION" BID A MONTH AFTER A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER AND NORTH VIETNAMESE POLITBUREAU MEMBER LE DUC THO.

THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING THE LATEST KISSINGER-THO TETE-A-TETE, DURING WHICH IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE TWO MEN TRADED VIEWS ON THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES.

THE PAPER ALSO STOOD OUT IN THAT IT CONTAINED BUT ONE CITATION, AN EXTRACT OF A SPEECH MADE BY PREMIER PHAM VAN BONG.

THE PASSAGE, PROBABLY THE PAPER'S MOST SIGNIFICANT, READ AS FOLLOWS:

"THE U.S. MUST PUT A COMPLETE HALT TO ITS MILITARY ENGAGEMENT AND INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOUTH VIETNAM, STRICTLY FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS TO BIND THE WAR WOUNDS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND RESPECT SCRUPULOUSLY THE FUNDAMENTAL NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF LAOS AND CAMBODIA.

"TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION IS TO LEARN A REALISTIC LESSON FROM AN OBSOLETE POLICY WHICH LED THE U.S. INTO A WAR COSTLY IN MEN AND MONEY, THE LONGEST AND MOST DIFFICULT OF ITS HISTORY.

"IT IS TO CREATE CONDITIONS FAVORABLE TO PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE U.S. BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY AND RECIPROCAL NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS," THE PAPER SAID.

NORTH VIETNAM THUS SEEMED FOR THE FIRST TIME TO BE OFFERING WASHINGTON AN ACCORD BASED ON THE "FIVE PRINCIPLES" OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.

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